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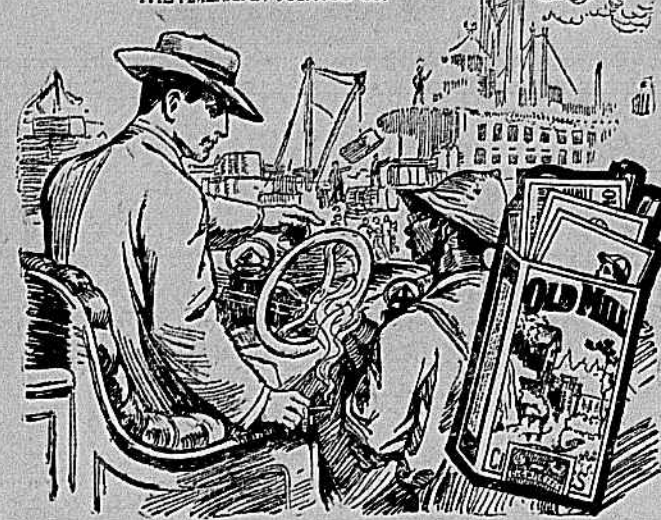
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VIRGINIA LEAGUE ADOPTS SCHEDULE FIXED BY ROANOKE

Magnates Agree on Dates for 1910 Season in Wide-Open Meeting--Norfolk Fails in Effort to Abolish 10-Cent Bleachers Here. Settle Case of Stanley Bigbie.

In a wide-open meeting in which every courtesy was extended the representatives of three newspapers, the presidents of the six clubs represented in the Virginia State League, met at Murphy's hotel yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, and in less than four hours adopted a playing schedule for the 1910 season, determined to enforce with the strictest care the club salary limit of \$1,700 per month, and accomplished every other detail necessary before actual play begins on April 21.

It was a meeting in which the most cordial relations existed, and was marked by few disputes. Win Clarke, president of the Norfolk club, was compelled to eliminate a 10-cent gate, which he had proposed to add to the 3 to 3, which lost the motion. President J. M. McLaughlin, of Lynchburg, succeeded in passing a motion by which Stanley Bigbie, of last year's club, will not be signed by any other club in the Virginia League. This action by the league is important, as it seems Bigbie by a ruling of the national commission, is a free agent, whereas he is virtually discriminated against as far as playing professional ball in the Virginia League is concerned.

W. M. Sneed, of Danville, in view of the fact that he agreed to turn a great majority of his Saturday games over to the other clubs, offered a motion that the mileage expenses of all the clubs be paid by the league. This motion was carried, and Richmond is eliminated, at the request of Mr. Bradley, who is willing to bear the expense of mileage, although Richmond, under the new schedule, will travel further during the season, than any other team. It was agreed that there should be no transfer of games except by the unanimous vote of the league.

Upon motion of Vice-President Connelley, of the league, the question of a schedule was brought up. It was understood, before this, however, that the various magnates had gotten together before the meeting, and had certain changes that President Williams, and Secretary Helms, of the Roanoke club, had suggested. President J. M. McLaughlin, of Lynchburg, increased the number of those favoring the schedule to five, and the only object of the meeting was to get the Norfolk club to agree that Norfolk is as good a baseball

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lent McLaughlin, of Lynchburg, who has assumed charge of the club since last year, said two men on the last year's team, Lawrence and Stanley Bigbie, had two contracts; one for \$150 a month, which was filed with the National Commission, and a second with the club, and which was filed with the commission for \$175. Neither of these players has consented to sign this season at \$150 per month, and it was this failure to obtain the consent of Stanley Bigbie, that Bigbie, as a national commission requires, was not sent a written contract prior to March 1, but that Bigbie had written him, in response to a letter, that he could not afford to sign at \$150, and would not play in Lynchburg this season for that salary. The Virginia league agreed that Bigbie is a free agent, and no effort will be made to prevent his signing with any other league. The owners, however, agreed not to sign Bigbie under any circumstances. If Bigbie should appeal to the national commission, it is not probable that the decision will be in his favor, as the Virginia league has no right to discriminate against him, and that he is free to sign with any club he wishes. Some time ago, while Bigbie's dispute with Lynchburg was on, he was offered a contract by Owner Bradley, of the club, for \$175 a month, but McLaughlin being satisfactorily arranged, but Owner Bradley said last night he has no use for the player. But he has since then been ruling of the league. Mr. McLaughlin says he has no desire to prevent Bigbie's signing with any club, but his only purpose is to have some explanation of his refusal to accept a proposition from Lynchburg.

Mr. McLaughlin admitted another violation of the salary limit last year in the case of W. A. Ross, but it developed that Ross's contract with the club was for \$1,700 a month, and also admitted violations of the salary limit. He stated, however, that the contracts were all straight enough, but that the players were given money outside.

An honor system will govern the conduct of the league this year, so far as enforcing the salary limit is concerned. One month from the day the league opens each team is expected to abide by the rules. If a team fails to do so, the league will issue a warning to each club that the rules of the league in all respects must be enforced, and that any violation of the requirement will be penalized.

Win Clarke, of Norfolk, suggested that the number of players allowed each club be reduced to eleven, and that a playing manager, Owner Bradley, of Richmond, promptly objected to any decrease. Clarke suggested that pitcher or catcher might be played in the outfield on off-days, but he lost his point, and the five other owners unanimously favored carrying the salary limit with a manager's salary shall not be included in the \$1,700 allowed each club.

The question of the transfer of games was presented, as a result of the disputes arising last year over the championship. This matter was brought up by the Norfolk club, and the Norfolk management, unless it had acted judiciously in the matter, might have caused an ugly row at the close of last season. The Norfolk club, which is in a position to have a great deal of influence in the league, voted to prohibit the transfer of games, except by unanimous vote of all the representatives present.

The equalization of the mileage between the clubs was also discussed, and it was decided that the mileage would be paid out of the sinking fund before any dividends are declared or the affairs of the league settled.

President Briggs, of the league, moved that the Memorial Day receipts be pooled and the proceeds divided between the management of all the clubs. Mr. Briggs suggested that the Norfolk club should be given a holiday as the Fourth of July or Labor Day, and that therefore the larger clubs should be given the benefit of the receipts of Norfolk.

Win Clarke started the most heated discussion of the meeting when he presented a motion, on behalf of the Norfolk management, that Owner Bradley be compelled to pay the Norfolk club, as far as it allowed white adults to enter the grounds at this price. Mr. Bradley objected to a change, explaining that the Norfolk club, as the cheap admittance and that the effect of abolishing it will be to keep away many persons who would otherwise turn out.

"We always have a crowd in these bleachers," said Mr. Bradley, "and it is a paying proposition. We do not intend to force people into our grandstand, but, on the other hand, we have covered all the bleachers and try to appeal to all classes. I think each club should be allowed to manage its own affairs."

"The 10-cent gate violates the constitution of the league," said Clarke, in response. "I don't see where the advantage is in letting a club have all the Saturday games, and then allow grown white men to enter the grounds for 10 cents, when the visiting club, which maintains no such entrance fee at home, only gets 1/2 cents for each ticket."

Clarke also took a rap at the good showing made by Richmond in attendance, whereas the actual receipts were less than those gotten at the Norfolk, when the number of people present is much fewer. The magnates seemed amused by this statement.

President Wells took sides with Mr. Bradley. He argues that there is a large patronage for the 10-cent bleachers in Richmond, and that many people walk both ways who won't come if the fee is raised. President Briggs's objection was that the price should be uniform in every city. The Norfolk management, of Roanoke, was unwilling to vote against the 10-cent bleachers, and the Norfolk club, which is the main cause of the big crowds in the cheap bleachers, President McLaughlin, of Lynchburg, read the constitution of the league on the subject.

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Briggs seconded Clarke's motion to abolish the 10-cent gate, which stood three to three, which killed the proposition. Norfolk, Portsmouth and Lynchburg voted to cut out the 10-cent gate, and the Norfolk club, which is in a position to have a great deal of influence in the league, voted to prohibit the transfer of games, except by unanimous vote of all the representatives present.

ROANOKE BELIEVES IN YOUNG PITCHERS

Roanoke, Va., March 15.—Manager Shaughnessy has great hopes of his young pitcher, Ferris, is touted as the real goods. Earl Holt, the former Shoemaker, writes that Ferris has everything and should develop into a regular. Sam Hall, from Fall Branch, Tenn., created a sensation in that part of the country last summer by his great work, and around Knoxville and Bristol the fans believed that he is the coming star. He has been pitching at the Roanoke club, and is a strapping big youngster, with the ears of a Minotaur. He has been pitching at the Roanoke club, and is a strapping big youngster, with the ears of a Minotaur. He has been pitching at the Roanoke club, and is a strapping big youngster, with the ears of a Minotaur.

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SPECTACULAR COUP MARKS DAY'S SPORT

Rejuvenated Ethon at Post Time Finished With Something to Spare.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 15.—Racing at Monier Park to-day was marked by one of the most spectacular coups of the entire season, with the rejuvenated Ethon, from the stable of Jack Sturgin, the medium. The odds on Ethon were gradually forced down from 10 to 1 to 2 to 1. At post time Ethon finished with something to spare. Summaries:

First race—three furlongs, selling—Sylvan Dell, 110 (Nicol), 5 to 1; first; Lydia Lee, 110 (Traxler), 7 to 1; second; Cheese, 106 (Davis), 15 to 1; third, Time, 1:28 1/2.

Second race—five and a half furlongs, selling—Ferland Cecilian, 110 (Nicol), 5 to 1; first; Abrasian, 107 (Obert), 10 to 1; second; Sou, 109 (Zowars), 11 to 1; third, Time, 1:08 1/2.

Third race—seven furlongs, selling—Tolson Or, 109 (Powers), 7 to 1; first; Dander, 112 (Gilbert), 8 to 1; second; Time, 1:28 1/2.

Fourth race—one mile and a sixteenth, selling—Bogman, 109 (Reid), 5 to 1; first; Nethermost, 109 (Davenport), 7 to 1; second; High Range, 109 (Cole), 10 to 1; third, Time, 1:47 1/2.

Fifth race—mile and seven-eighths, selling—Ethon, 112 (Ganz), 5 to 1; first; Hans, 110 (Davenport), 3 to 1; second; Time, 1:46 1/2.

Sixth race—one mile and a sixteenth, selling—Cecil, 111 (Davis), 8 to 1; first; Enigma, 110 (Burton), 10 to 1; second; Belle Scott, 109 (Obert), 5 to 1; third, Time, 1:49 3/5.

Sangli Takes Feature Event. Tampa, Fla., March 15.—With everything in his favor, Stangel won the feature event, a half mile, in a short odds of 2 to 5 over a fair field. Ormus, swinging wide into the stretch, carried Tamar and Flora Rilly nearly to the finish, but Sangli's chances for victory. Summaries:

First race—two and a half years and up, six furlongs, selling—Miss, 100 (Cole), 4 to 1; first; Granger, 107 (Glanzer), 2 to 1; second; Katherine Gardner, 105 (Burton), 5 to 1; third, Time, 1:28 1/2.

Second race—three-year-olds and up, six furlongs, selling—Necklet, 104 (Burton), 8 to 1; first; Percy Taylor, 104 (Burton), 10 to 1; second; Lady, 104 (Fain), 6 to 1; third, Time, 1:19.

Third race—three-year-olds and up, five and a half furlongs, selling—Sam, 115 (Harty), 3 to 1; first; Necha, 110 (Fain), 8 to 1; second; Trappe, 103 (Chapell), 8 to 1; third, Time, 1:12.

Fourth race—four-year-olds and up, six furlongs, selling—Sangli, 120 (Glanzer), 2 to 1; first; Tamar, 118 (Koerner), 4 to 1; second; Clara, 115 (Blanton), 3 to 1; third, Time, 1:12 1/2.

Fifth race—three-year-olds and up, six furlongs, selling—Ramon, Corona, 100 (Burton), 6 to 1; first; Alvis, 114 (Boland), 15 to 1; second; Alvis, 114 (Boland), 15 to 1; third, Time, 1:19.

Sixth race—four-year-olds and up, six furlongs, selling—Sangli, 120 (Glanzer), 2 to 1; first; Tamar, 118 (Koerner), 4 to 1; second; Clara, 115 (Blanton), 3 to 1; third, Time, 1:12 1/2.

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